

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A central tube cable, comprising:
a cable jacket defining an optical fiber cavity therein;
at least one radial strength member embedded in said jacket;
a plurality of optical fibers disposed within said optical fiber cavity; and
a bundle support member disposed inside said optical fiber cavity to limit axial
movement of said optical fibers with respect to said bundle support member,
wherein at least one end of said bundle support member is securable to a ~~respective~~ splice
box.
2. (original) The central tube cable of claim 1, wherein said optical fibers are helically
wound around said bundle support member.
3. (original) The central tube cable of claim 1, where said optical fibers are S-Z
stranded around said bundle support member.
4. (original) The central tube cable of claim 1, wherein said bundle support member is

rigid.

5. (original) The central tube cable of claim 1, wherein said bundle support member is flexible.

6. (original) The central tube cable of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of buffer tubes in which said optical fibers are respectively housed.

7. (original) The central tube cable of claim 6, wherein at least some of said buffer tubes contact said bundle support member.

8. (original) The central tube cable of claim 7, wherein said buffer tubes are helically stranded around said bundle support member.

9. (original) The central tube cable of claim 7, wherein said buffer tubes are S-Z stranded around said bundle support member.

10. (original) The central tube cable of claim 1, wherein said optical fibers are held together as an optical fiber ribbon.

11. (original) The central tube cable of claim 10, wherein said optical fibers are held together as a plurality of optical fiber ribbons.

12. (original) The central tube cable of claim 11, wherein said optical fiber ribbons are helically stranded around said bundle support member.

13. (original) The central tube cable of claim 11, where said optical fiber ribbons are S-Z stranded around said bundle support member.

14. (currently amended) A central tube cable, comprising:
a cable jacket defining an optical fiber cavity therein;
a plurality of optical fibers disposed within said optical fiber cavity; and
a bundle support member disposed inside said optical fiber cavity to limit axial movement of said optical fibers with respect to said bundle support member, said bundle support member being string-like,
wherein at least one end of said bundle support member is securable to a ~~respective~~ splice box.

15. (original) The central tube cable of claim 14, wherein said optical fibers are helically wound around said bundle support member.

16. (original) The central tube cable of claim 14, where said optical fibers are S-Z stranded around said bundle support member.

17. (original) The central tube cable of claim 14, further comprising a plurality of buffer tubes in which said optical fibers are respectively housed.

18. (original) The central tube cable of claim 17, wherein at least some of said buffer tubes contact said bundle support member.

19. (original) The central tube cable of claim 18, wherein said buffer tubes are helically stranded around said bundle support member.

20. (original) The central tube cable of claim 18, wherein said buffer tubes are S-Z stranded around said bundle support member.

21. (original) The central tube cable of claim 14, wherein said optical fibers are held together as an optical fiber ribbon.

22. (original) The central tube cable of claim 14, wherein said optical fibers are held together as a plurality of optical fiber ribbons.

23. (previously presented) A central tube cable, comprising:
a cable jacket defining an optical fiber cavity therein;
at least one radial strength member embedded in said jacket;
a plurality of optical fibers disposed within said optical fiber cavity; and
means for securing said central tube cable to a splice box and for preventing axial
movement of said optical fibers,
wherein said means is partially disposed inside said optical fiber cavity.